FREE INDIA

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Sixth Anniversary of Bank Nationalisation was celebrated throughout the Country during the week 19–26 July 1975.

In Madras the Royepettah Branch of the Syndicate Bank organised a function to celebrate the nationalisation day. It was presided over by the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Mr. K.K. Shah. The function was well attended not only by officials of the Bank but also by its constituents.

A special report of the function is Published on Page 6.

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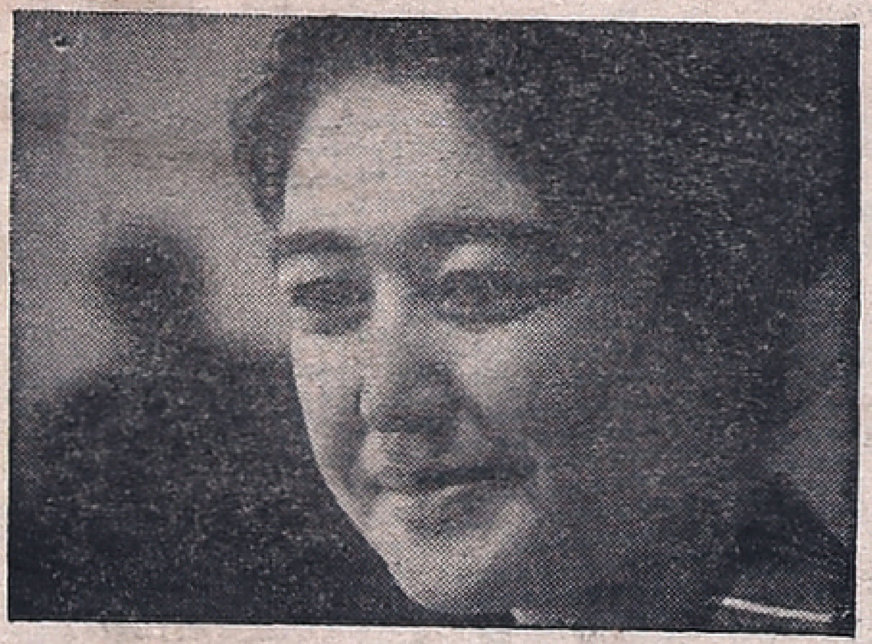
SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY

R. Nazirova has been a member of the Women's Council for many years and her advice is frequently sought when difficulties arise.

One of the tasks of the Women's Council is to help young women starting an independent life. The photo shows V. Khachaturian, member of the Women's Council, talking with a young worker of the confectionary about her problems and plans.



Dilpher Nishamova who has been entrusted with the job of pucervising the restaurants in the city.

Teacher K. Satyvaldyeva, member of the Women's Council in-charge of school education, with her students.

Women's Councils In Uzbekistan

By TATYANA SIMITSYNA

I once attended a meeting of the Women's Council at the House of Culture in Yangiul, a small town in Uzbekistan. The women were discussing the work of the kindergartens, in particular, the aesthetic education of children.

Women's Councils came into being in the USSR over 50 years ago: they helped realise in practice the Party and government programme for the emancipation of women. Before the Socialist Revolution of 1917 women in Central Asia (which was called Turkestan at that time) were greatly oppressed. The women actually lived outside the pale of society. Her status was no better than that of a mere piece of property of her husband. She was not even ragarded as a human being. It was with great difficulty that new, Soviet morality penetrated the lives and consciousness of the local people. In this situation the Women's Councils were a powerful instrument to fight out-dated traditions and centuries-old customs and to change them within a relatively short period of 10 to 15 years.

Rozakhon Nazirova of Yangiul, who lived through the developments of those years, says that the first active members of the Women's Councils were Russian women. They came specially to Central Asia to help the Uzbek, Tajik, Turkmen and Kirghiz women. They organised groups where women were taught to read and write, and drew women into social and production activities. The Russian women did a great deal to persuade men to change the obsolete customs and mores and to treat their wives as equals.

Nazirova says: "I remember how the Women's Council at Yangiul, then known as the village of Kaunchi, organised courses for training saleswomen. When the women first appeared behind counters in the shops many did not believe that they could use scales or count cash. Today we have in our town hundreds of women who are doctors, teachers and engineers."

Though the Women's Councils have accomplished their task of transforming completely the old way of life, they have not disappeared. Only their functions have changed. Their activity is now focussed on educational work. Today, they tackle problems confronting the working woman, mother and wife.

In industry the Women's Councils, together with trade unions, exercise control over the observance of

Ozad Abdullayeva, an obstetrician at a maternity home, is one of the activists of the Women's Council. It is therefore natural that health services, particularly the protection of the health of women and children have been put under her charge

laws on labour and maternity protection. They help women organise their leisure time, raise the level of their education and improve professional skills.

The Women's Councils do many useful things for women. During the period I was studying the work of the Women's Council at Yangiul, a doctor-cosmetologist delivered a lecture for women at the local bakery; a shoe factory started a series of lectures on children's education; designers of the town's Fashion House held a fashion show at a ginnery; a confectionery started courses for young mothers. The Women's Council had a hand in all these.

Of course, the Party, youth and other organisa-

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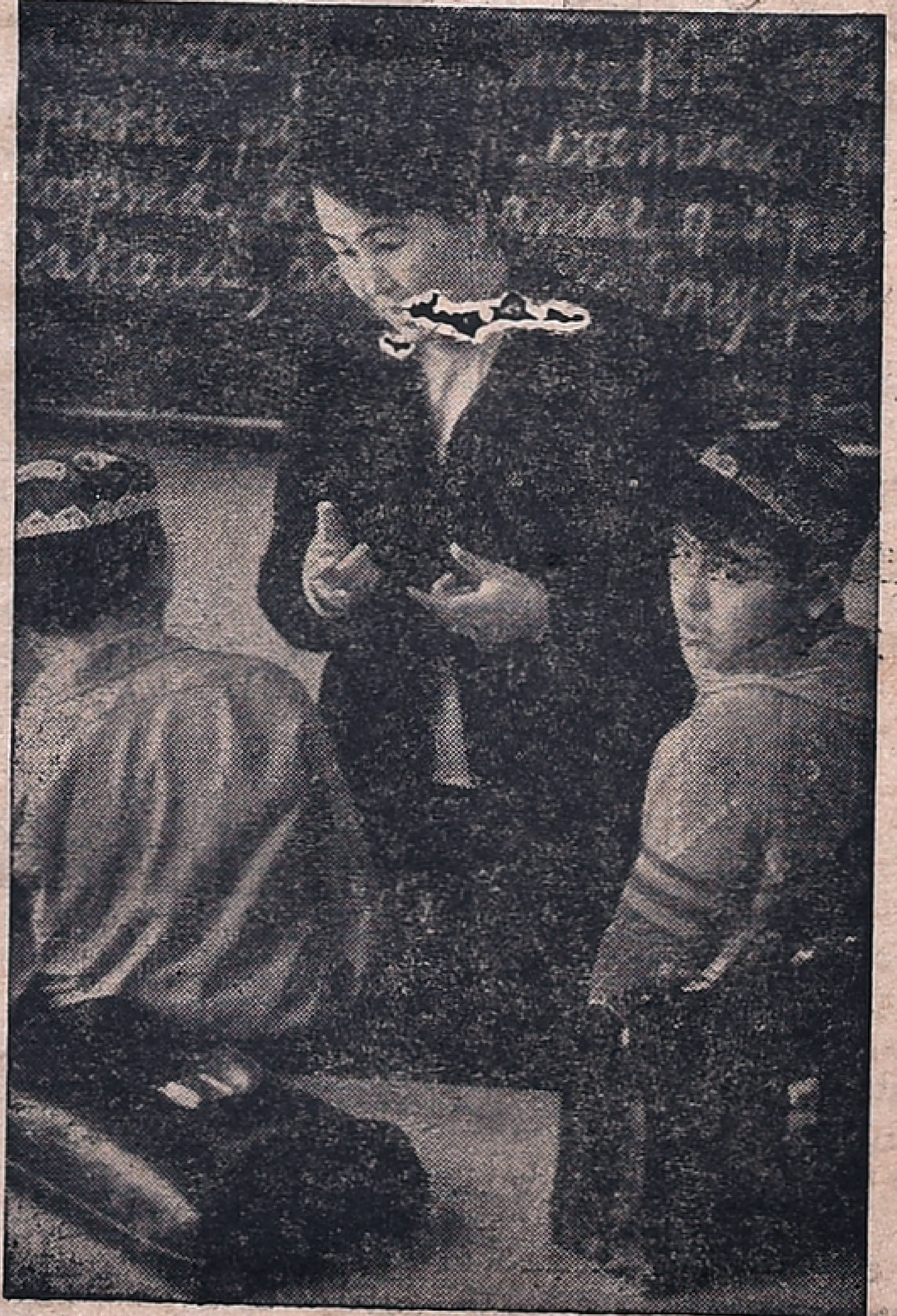

A friendly atmosphere generally prevails at the meetings of the Women's Council. Questions about which women are most concerned are discussed thoroughly and from all angles.

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Curbing Economic Offences

PROF. PRANAD MUKHERJEE
Minister of State for Finance

Growth with social justice is the accepted principle of the nation in her economic activities and to achieve this objective, Govemment have been taking series of measures. The Direction Principles of the Constitu-aim at an egalitarian society where disparities in income and wealth and concentration of economic power will be reduced to insignificance. There are various social and economic constraints in the attainment of these objectives. In order to remove these constraints, Prime Minister has announced a 21-point socio-economic programme of action. One of the main programmes is to tackle "economic offences" on an enduring basis so as to remove a major handicap to attainment of social justice and economic growth.

our minds are familiar with conventional offences like murder, theft, robbery, etc., which affects individuals but it takes time to realise the seriousness of non-conventional crimes causing great harm to the entire nation. A prime category of these non-conventional crimes is "economic offences", which may be defined as any act or omission contrary to law, which is prejudicial to the well-being of the economy and which prevents it from subserving common good. Some of the glaring examples of "economic offences" are under-declaration of production of excisable goods, smuggling into or out of the county of prohibited goods, under-declaration or concealment of income in income-tax returns and suppression of wealth in wealth-tax returns, Further, for ensuring a fair deal to the more vulnerable sections of the society with the best possible use of the available resources and for equitable distribution of finished products, various controls and regulations have to be imposed on praduction and distribution. These are exploited by unscrupulous elements to make illegal gains through profiteering, smuggling in violation of Customs Act, hoarding and black-marketing. Black money is thus generated, both by not offering for taxation full profits of rightful gains as also by surreptitious dealings in violation of the statutory regulations and laws like Import and Export Act, Customs Act, Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, etc.

PREMIUM ON DISHONESTY

Now let us have a look into the nature and problems created by the economic offenders. Apart from other harmful consequences to the economy, the economic offenders deprive the Government of much-needed revenue required for development efforts and for financing schemes for social welfare. These offences delay and in many cases, defeat the attainment of the socio-economic objectives of the Government. For instance, exchange control is a useful and flexible instrument of commercial policy for increasing and maximising the gains to the nation from its external trade, both visible and invisible. The anti-social elements try to contravene and evade these controls either to accumulate funds abroad for financing smuggling or to evade local tax on income, wealth and property. These illicit funds are accumulated through under-involcing or over involcing of imports and exports. Diversion to illicit channels of the foreign exchange remittance-are some of the instances.

Apart from the goods that may be smuggled into or out of the country, smuggling takes subtle form through manipulation of invoices, manipulation of import and export values in order to bring more goods than are permissible or to send out larger quantities than it would be warranted by the foreign exchange undertaken to be repatriated. There are also leakages through various concessions, for example, for baggage or for gift parcels.

A smuggler evades not only the customs duty and control restrictions but also the income-tax, wealth tax and sales-tax and his transactions do not usually figure in his books. The concealment of these transactions and resultant income leads to the creation of black money which, in turn, is used for financing smuggling operarions, hoarding etc. Thus, the various economic offences like, tax evasion, smuggling and contravention of licence regulations are closely inter-related and have serious repercussions on the country's economy and social structure as well. It puts a premium on dishonesty and contributes to the concentration of economic power in the hands of a few.

Direct tax laws contain provisions penalising failures on the part of the tax payers and there are provisions for launching prosecution. Increasing use is being made of these powers to penalise and prosecute tax evaders. Many people within taxable income do not pay taxes. So a country-wide survey is being carried out to discover new assessees, both in the professional and non-professional categories. The powers of compulsory acquisition of immovable property for understatement of value at the time of transfer is also being resorted to. To stop evasion constant efforts are being made to evolve better investigation techniaues, the latest in the series being the setting up of special squads in the bigger cities to detect unaccounted investments in construction of luxury houses. A special cell has been constituted at the Central level to enquire into the cases of some of the large business houses as also to coordinate investigation into the cases of known smugglers and their associates.

Apart from tax evasion, another area of economic offence is the racketeering in foreign exchange. The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA), already in vogue, was amended for more extensive coverage and came into force on January 1,1974 in order to effectively control the suspect and illicit activites and impose more stringent punishment.

ANTI-SMUGGLING OPERATIONS

It is interesting to note that there is a shift, in the smuggled itoms. In the past, gold used to be smuggled in and silver used to be smuggled out. The main items which are now smuggled into the country are synthetic yarn and fabrics, watches electronic goods, liquors, cosmetics and spices. Items which are generally smuggled out of the country are, precious and semi-precious stones, films, antiques, sculptors, paintings and narcotics.

Since September 1974, a frontal attack on smuggling has been launched. The customs staff, both on preventive duties as well as in the intelligence set up have been enhanced considerably. Their mobility has been increased by provision of new vehicles and better launches and speed-boats. These have been provided with modern equipment for better communication and operations at night. Special Collectorates of Customs have been created on the Western Coast and on Indo-Nepal Border, to deal exculsively with the work of anti-smuggling.

MISA was amended in September 1974, by an Ordinance and was applied to smugglers and foreign exchange racketeers. Prosecutions, seizures, raids by Customs increased considerably. A large humber of known smugglers were detained.

The detention of leading smugglers and their associates under the provisions of the new preventive detention law had a very healthy effect and the smuggling came almost to a complete halt soon after September, 1974. Certain adverse decisions of the courts which resulted in the release of some of the alleged smugglers provided a fillip during the last few months to the smuggling activities and an Ordinance had to be issued, following the Proclamation of Emergency, to amend the COFEPOSA Act on the 1st of July to plug certain loopholes in law. Reports indicate that this has already had salutary effect.

Apart from taking action against smugglers efforts are

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THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

A non-violent man can do nothing save by the power and grace of God. Without it he won't have the courage to die without anger, without fear and without retaliation.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL-NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Aug. 3, 1975.

IRRIGATION

Irrigation is a big problem in Chengam Farm, says a headline in a local daily.

It is the main problem of agriculture everywhere. Ensure enough water supply, the peasants will do the rest Distribution of fertilisers etc. also helps. But without adequate irrigation facilities, nothing much can be produced.

We have many perennial rivers in the country, which discharge into the sea, Inter-state disputes pending for years have foiled many an attempt to utilise these waters for irrigation and power production.

Tamil Nadu, which depends on the Cauvery to irrigate the Tanjore delta, has alleged that Karnataka is storing water in excess of its requirements. (It is well to remember that the Cauvery in Tamil Nadu irrigates 26 lakh acres, while it feeds just seven lakh acres in Karnataka)

This is not the only dispute in the country. Almost all the inter-state rivers are involved in some dispute or other.

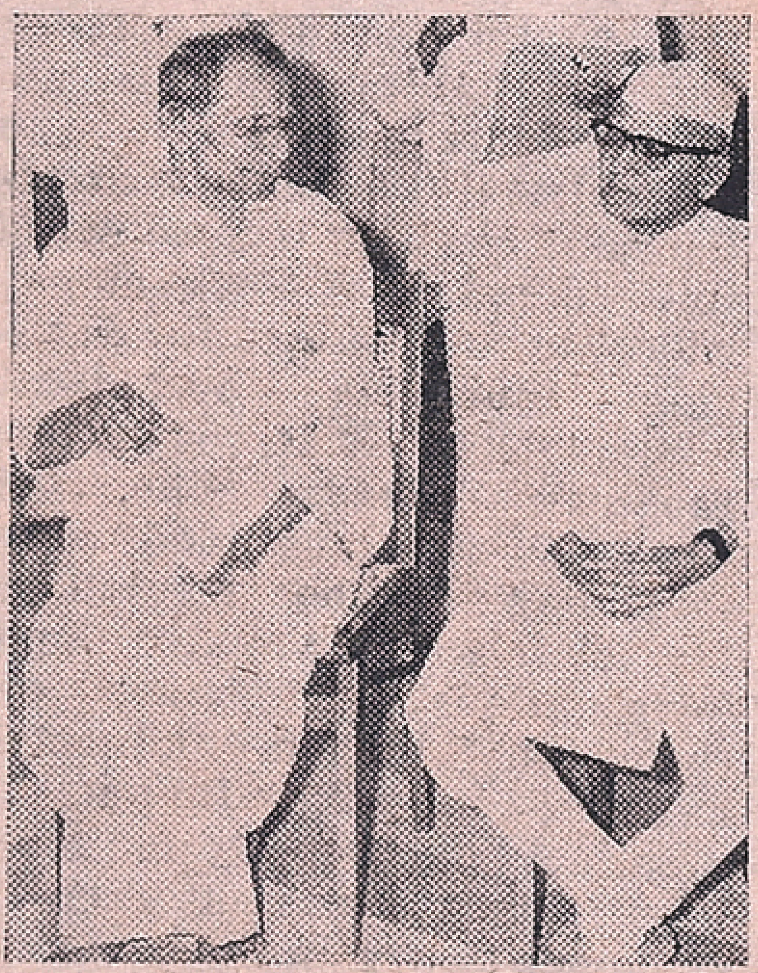
The emergency can be conveniently used to resolve these disputes by bringing all inter-state rivers under one authority, which can assess the requirements of the various states and arrange for meeting them without the intervention of local politicians.

Governor's Homage on Guru Poornima Day

Sai Baba: The Saint Who Wiped Out Caste

"The great service of Sri Sai Saba of Shirdi has been to wipe out the difference between caste, community, religion and language and to look upon humanity as one", said His Excellency Sri K.K. Shah, Governor of Tamil Nadu, participating in the celebration of Guru Poornima at Sri Shirdi Sai Baba Mandir, Shenoy Nagar on Thursday July 24, under the auspices of the Sri Sai Baba Bhaktha Samajam (Regd) Shenoy Nagar.

H H. Swami Kesavaiahji, Founder-President of the Samajam, in his inspiring message on



H H Swami Kesavaiahji and the Governor

the occasion stressed the role o Guru in guiding the people to spiritual heights whatever be the calibre of devotee. Guru Poornima was a sacred day dedicated to the reverential rememberance of the Guru who is the dispeller of all ignorance and gloom, observed Swamiji.

The Mandir was specially decorated for the occasion and the large portrait of Sri Sai Baba was tastefully adorned with garlands. The function was attended by more than 5000 devotees that came from all parts of the city and other pleaces like Nellore, Gudur, Vijayawada, Vuyyur, Tirupathi, Salem, Chingleput, Bangalore, etc. The function preceeded by usual Thursday Puja, chanting of Vedic Mantrams by Pandits beginning with Ganesh Pooja, Lakshminarayana Prathishta in Kalasam, Sri Lakshmi Puja and Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam.

The Governor on arrival was received by the Chairman and office bearers of the Samajam. On entering the Mandir H.H Swami Kesavaiahji received the Governor and garlanded him. Poornakumbham was presented to the Governor.

Thiru Uttam Reddi, Chairman of the Samajam thanked the Governor for accepting to be present on the occasion. He said that the Samajam and the Sai devotees were very fortunate to have Swamiji and guide them in the spiritual path. He read the messages received from the President of India Sri Fakruddin Ali Ahamed; Sri V.V. Giri, Ex-President of India; Sri B.D. Jetti, Vice-President of India; Sri K. Brahmananda Reddi, Home Minister of India; Sri C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister of India; Sri Mohanlal Sukhadia Governor of Karnataka; Justice Sri T. Rama Prasada Rao, Madras; Mrs. Maragadam Chandrasekar, Secretary of the Congress and others wishing the sacred function success.

The Governor at the outset said that he knew about Shirdi Sai Baba from his boyhood and also how Sai Baba influenced the people by his spiritual guidance and miracles. He was

(Contd. on next page)

H.H. Swami Kesavaiahji's Message

Guru Poornima is a very sacred day, dedicated to the reverential remembrance of the Guru who is the dispeller of all ignorance and gloom. The Guru is the visible embodiment of God on earth. The scriptures rightly aver that, next to the mother and the father who give us the physical body, the Guru deserves to be venerated as the manifestation of God, because he bestows on us the wisdom that leads to the highest realisation. It is only through his guidance may we tread the path of spirituality and merit God's grace. Devotion to the Guru is therefore absolutely essential if we desire to attain the highest Knowledge. God Himself has set an example in this matter when he descended to the world as avathars. Sri Rama was the model of a disciple. His reverence for Vasista at whose feet he learnt the highest philosophical truths and for Viswamitra who initiated him in to the martial art, well serves as an example to the young of all times. Sri Krishna's devotion to his Guru Sandipini has no parallel. Though He was the fountain of all wisdom which He was to demonstrate later through the gospel of the Gita, he sat at the feet of his preceptor and learnt his lessons in a spirit of great humility. Our scriptural literature abounds in instances which show how the Guru's grace can bestow the highest wisdom on an individual whatever may be his calibre and lead him to the pinnacle of Godliness.

The unique feature about the Guru's attitude to his disciples is that he has abundant affection for each one of them and helps them with sympathy to overcome their deficiencies. His only concern is the spiritual progress of those that are attached to him. His love for them is the sublimest because it has no tinge of selfishness in it. Faith in the Guru is the easiest path to true knowledge and wisdom. The independent study of scriptures, pilgrimages to holy places, bath in sacred rivers and the association of good men are all known to be approved aids for the purification of the mind. But these have their own limitations and are transitory in their influence. The Guru's grace is however the most potent and effective instrument in accelerating spiritual progress. That is how the Guru is worshipped as Barahma, Vishnu, Siva, nay, as Para Brahman Himself.

On the Guru Poornima Day, Bhagwan Vyasa who looked upon as God Vishnu Himself and the great lineage of preceptors that have illumined the lives of countless people by the transcendental beauty of their spiritual personality and by the mighty power of their radiant philosophy, are all worshipped with due reverence and devotion. To this glorious galaxy of Gurus, Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi belongs. While on the physical plane, he was a source of tremendous inspiration to all those that came into contact with him. By his remarkable grace, he cured the physical, mental and spiritual ills of the large number of devotees that felt drawn to him and conferred on them peace and happiness that passeth all understanding. He was the embodiment of love, and his sympathy flowed spontaneously to those that were miserable and afflicted. His grace has become more palpable after his exit from the world. Those that have faith in him and have installed him in their hearts, have wonderful experiences of his marvellous grace. Today Sai Baba has become a household word, worthy of reverence. The shrine reared at Shenoy Nagar in his reverential memory and consecrated recently, has become a pilgrim-centre, aglow with spiritual power.

Let us on this sacred day of Guru Poornima turn our hearts and minds in grateful remembrance and devotion to Sri Sai Baba and merit his ever expanding grace.

Om Shanthi ! Om Shanthi !!
Om Shanthi !!!

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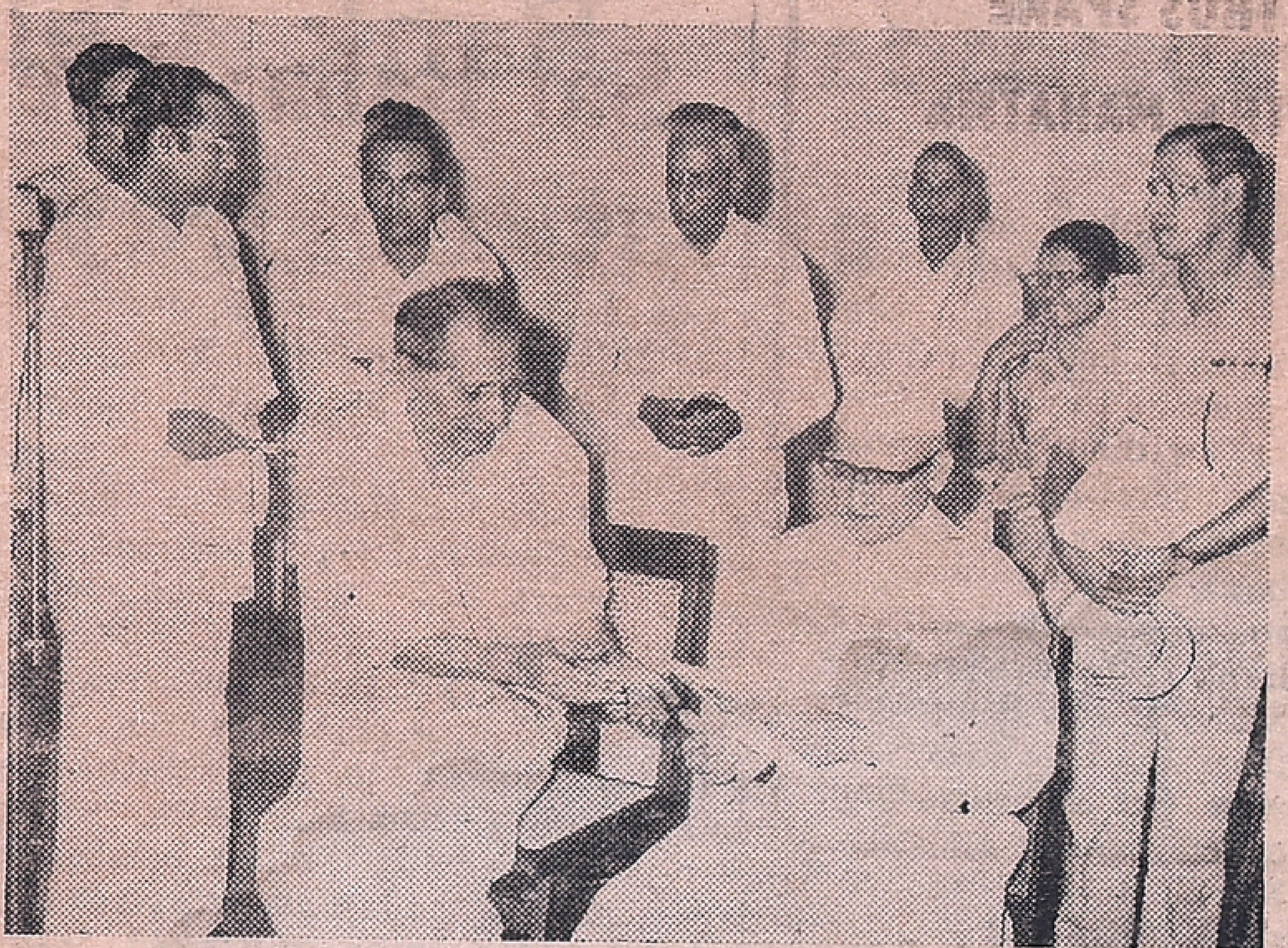
Governor's Tribute to Swami Kesvaiahji



Swamiji showing the records on Sri Sai Baba to the Mr. Governor, K. K. Shah.

very happy to find such a beautiful Mandir calm, cool, collected, sober and which gave peace of mind and spiritual satisfaction. Any holy place should be calm and inspiring and he was happy that this Mandir was one such place. He would love to come here any day for meditation and peace of mind. He was very happy to find more women than men in the gathering because women were the custodians of the culture of India.

The Governor then released a record of inspiring songs in praise of Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi and his chosen devotee Sri Swami Kesavaiahji composed and sung with rare grace and melody by Smt S. Janaki the play back singer. The Governor handed over the first record to Dr. H T. Vira Reddi, F R.C.S., a devotee of Sri Sai Baba. Governor also honoured the artist Smt. S. Janaki with a Ponnadai. The record was played to the gathering.

Sri Sai Baba's Udhi, consecrated coins, and Prasadam were distributed after the function by Swamiji to all the devotees till late in the night.

The following is the text of Governor K. K. Shah's address at Shenoynagar on Guru Poornima Day :

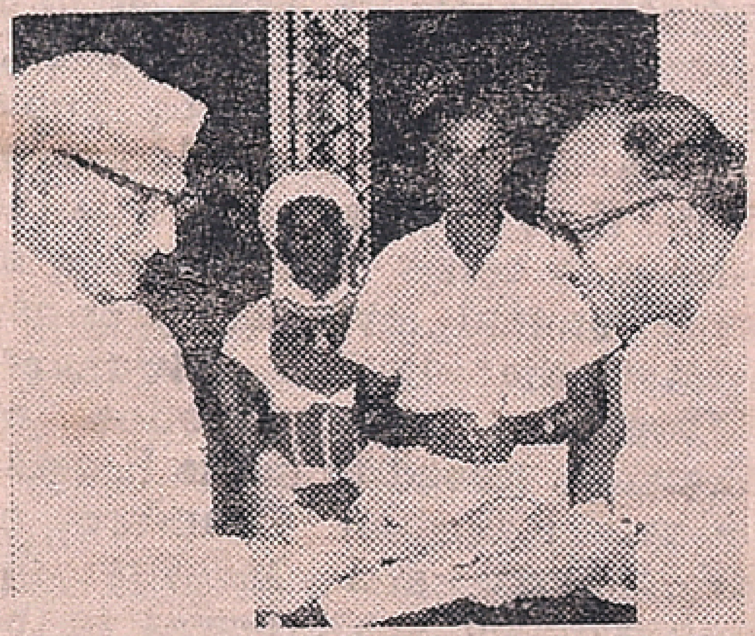
It is not merely a pleasure but a privilege to be associated with a holy function like the Guru Poornima Celebration. Such an occasion gives us an opportunity to focus our minds on the imperishable ideals that have sustained us through the ages and contributed to real progress.

There are certain days in the year which are considered very sacred. One of such days is Guru Poornima. The Full Moon Day of Ashad—Ashad Pournami—is a day dedicated to the special worship of Guru. It was Vyasa who classified the Vedas into four. He is the author of Brahma Sutras, the Mahabharata and the eighteen puranas. The Brahma Sutras is the basic work for all the schools of Vedanta. Lord Vishnu is supposed to have been born as Vyasa. Guru Poornima is also known as Vyasa Pooja Day. Guru Poornima inaugurates the Chaturmasya Vrata (vow of continence for four months) in the rainy season. Sanyasins usually move from place to place and so they prefer to stay at one place and observe Chaturmasya. There is practical wisdom in observing Guru Poornima. If you have to stay at one place for four months, why not use it for deep study under a Sadguru? This is done by many saints like His Holiness Sri Sankaracharya Swamiji of Kanchi and others. As Sai Baba is held in reverence as a great Guru by the devotees, Guru Poornima Day is observed in every shrine devoted to Sai Baba. On this day, we turn our reverential thoughts to the great lineage of Gurus and pay our homage to the effulgent ideals that they personified in their lives. This is indeed a very sacred day which is meant to chasten our spirits and remodel our lives on the lines taught to us by the Great Gurus.

LAND OF SPIRITUALISM

Each nation has its own distinctive element which contributes to social weal and universal progress. India has essentially been a land of saints and sages. Spirituality has been the hallmark of her culture. From time to time, great saints and sages have arisen in this punya bhoomi to fortify men's faith in the higher values of life and to turn their minds Godward.

Ultimately, the goal of all human endeavour is to attain perfection and enjoy everlasting bliss. Only an abiding faith in God, by whatever name He may be called, and a life of transcendental purity can help the attainment of this goal which is common to all mankind. While other nations have harped upon elements of progress which promote material prosperity and add to creature-comforts, India alone has emphasized the need for a spiritual life which will lead to the highest beautitude.



Dr. Vira Reddy receiving the first record from the Governor.

Bhagwan Krishna has proclaimed in the Gita that whenever Dharma languishes and Adharma preponderates in the world He comes down to the earth for the protection of virtue and the destruction of evil.

QUALITIES OF GURU

The entire existence of the world depends upon balanced growth. It is for Saints and Gurus to see that evil is balanced by good. It is therefore that a Guru continues to struggle to prepare high souls. But to be Guru, he must possess the following qualities.

Salutations to that Guru whose lotus feet are adorned by the essence of all revelations, who is the sun who makes the bud of Vedanta to blossom. It is not enough that he has mastered right knowledge but he must be one with it.

Salutations to the Guru who is one with the supreme spirit established in the eternal, the peaceful, above limitations of space, untouched by impurity and beyond the three instruments of manifestations namely Bindu, Nadu and Kala.

In fact he must be able to control spiritual power.

Salutations to that Guru who controls spiritual knowledge and power, who has direct knowledge of all tattvas and who can give both wordly welfare and liberation. It is then that the ambition of the student also to become one with his creator, materialises.

Salutations to that Guru who has shown me that supreme being who in the form of a sphere of undifferentiated consciousness pervades this universe of the moving and non-moving beings.

UNIQUE PERSONALITY

The advent of Sai Baba, late in the last century marked the beginning of an era of communal harmony. He laid the foundation for national unity. He was loved and respected by all, irrespective of differences of religion, caste, community and language. His house was a masjid for Muslims and a temple for Hindus. He asked each one to stick to his own faith. Baba himself is reported to have said that he was Kabir in a former birth. Kabir saw no difference between Rama and Rahim and so did Sai Baba. Both were initiated by Hindu Gurus. As Sai Baba's biographer points out, "his life and teachings were the strongest and most forcible exposition of the underlying unity of all communities and creeds of India." He used his supernatural powers and performed miracles for alleviating human suffering. He assured that he would come to the rescue of his devotees in distress even from his tomb and would take their burdens upon himself. "Love ye, one another, as I love you all" was his immortal message.

Shri Sai Baba has been a unique personality in the spiritual sphere who by His life and teachings sought to bring about a harmony of faiths and to inculcate in men the feeling

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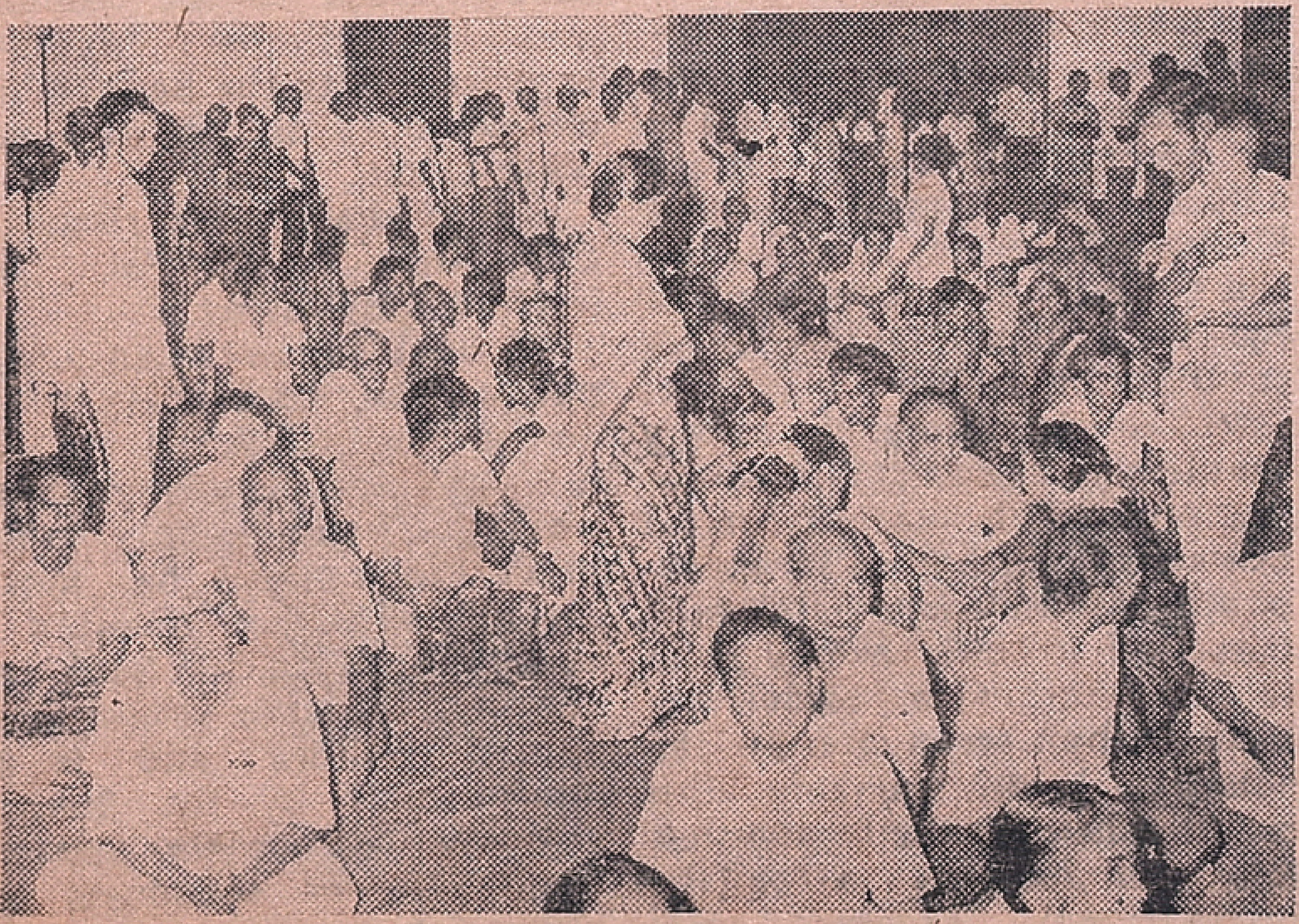

A Section of the Audience

Syndicate Bank Celebrates Nationalisation Day

By A. ARUMUGAM

Tamil Nadu's popular Governor Mr. K. K. Shah presided over the sixth anniversary of bank nationalisation organised so ably by the Syndicate Bank's Royapettah Branch Manager Mr. Roosevelt. People from all walks of life were present including, among others, State Labour Minister Mr. Rajaram, Madras University Vice Chancellor Mr. Sundaravadivelu, Chairman of the Housing Board Mr. Rajendran, Dr. Vishnu Sarma, Cine artiste Vijayakumar, Mr. Avvai Natarajan, and Religious leader Kunrakudi Adigal. Senior Officials of the Syndicate Bank were present including the new regional development manager Mr. Gopinath Rao, Mr. Shenoy and Mount Road Branch Manager Mr. Sunder Rao.

Governor Shah stated that the Bank, (the Chairman of which was his friend K. K. Pai) continued its pioneering activities after nationalisation as it did prior to it, with schemes such as development of small scale industries, opening ladies branches and giving help to students going abroad for higher studies. He stated that today the bank continued to stress the need to build small scale industry and help self employed people and thus make its contribution to solving the unemployment problem. Syndicate Bank had always been the common man's bank and it remains so. Its efforts in the direction of promoting agricultural productivity and assisting housing schemes was especially praiseworthy. Syndicate Bank was fulfilling and would continue to play its important role in nation building activity.

The Governor added: "According to the survey made by the Reserve Bank of India on the completion of six years of nationalisation of banks, a significant feature is the major thrust of banks into rural areas especially areas where organised banking facilities were totally lacking. Every second new bank office established during the last six years has been opened in an unbanked centre. It is also a matter for satisfaction that the banks have endeavoured to extend liberal credit facilities to priority and other neglected sectors of the economy—agriculture, small scale industries, export, road and water transport operators, retail trade and small business, professionals and self-employed persons and education. Agriculture has had a notable share in the expansion of commercial bank credit during the last six years. Deposit mobilisation is also impressive. The total deposits of commercial banks as at the end of June 1975, amounted to Rs. 12,362 crores against Rs. 4,646 crores six years before, representing an increase of 166%.

"I am very glad to know from the welcome address of Mr. K.P. Gopinath Rao that the bank secured three awards at the national level last year-one from the Indian Merchants Chamber for promotion of savings, second from the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry for outstanding achievement in the field of agricultural finance and the third from National Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs for outstanding contribution to the small scale industrial sector and for promotion of self-employment. These are the objects of nationalisation. Nay, these are the only sinews for fighting unemployment. That is the way to peace and prosperity.

"Nationalised Banks have to remember that they are custodians of the interests of the common man. The prosperity of the country depends upon judicious utilisation of resources which the common man entrusts to their care. Anybody who takes longer time to revolve the credit given to him, who does not use it for quicker turn over, who is careless in not cuttin down cost to the consumer, who does not incessantly struggle for import substitution, who does not make maximum use of scarce raw material, who unnecessarily closes avenues of employment, who does not maximise production, etc. does not deserve credit from nationalised banks. Gone are the days when security alone was the soul of banking. The nationalised banks have to remember that rural area must get its adequate share of increased resources. In fact, it is the urban area which sometimes behaves like a parasite. It would be criminal to allow it to do so by accommodating it. Every balance sheet must disclose hidden guidance of an experienced banker. It is here that the Syndicate Bank excels in its contribution.

"It is again a happy augury that this year the Bank is completing its 50th year of useful existence. It may not be appropriate for me to mention here that this Bank is having more than 15 branches exclusively manned by women all over the country. I am making this mention here for the reason that this year happens to be the International Women's year. There are more than 4000 ladies working in all cadres including that of attender, in this bank. They are serving the various branches in the country.

"In today's context, particularly in the period of national emergency, this Bank, I am sure, will take the objectives of the country to nooks and reach new heights."

The Governor then presented an award to Mr. Roosevelt for his outstanding services to the bank and this was not the first time that this dynamic young man had been so honoured. Sri Gopinath Rao spoke on the activities of the bank and outlined its achievements.

Tamil Nadu Labour Minister Mr. Rajaram acknowledged the contribution of Syndicate Bank in its role in helping development of the state. Mr. Rajendran appreciated its help with housing projects.

Speaking as a client of the bank Dr. Vishnu Sarma, specialist in women's diseases and childbirth (who draws cartoons for a hobby) stated that it was the stress laid on human relations that had endeared the bank so much to the common man. He recounted his own experience with the Bank which had come to his aid at a very critical time.

He paid handsome tributes to Chairman K. K. Pai and concluded by saying:

"A bank which has an imaginative chairman heading it will do fine business while the rest just jog along financing things like digging drains only to find that all their money has flowed through what they financed to construct. Syndicate Bank does very well because it invests on human qualities and is not guided solely by the financial risk involved or the apparent profitability or soundness of a particular transaction, however important it may be."

Mr. Roosevelt : Man of the Year

Outstanding among persons who have made banking their career is Mr Roosevelt, dynamic first manager of the Syndicate Bank's Royapettah branch. Though only in his twenties he has already been chosen 'Man of the year' for the second time and has made a mark. He is an M.A. in Economics from Presidency College. He worked for two years at the National Council of Applied Economic Research at Delhi which gives him a sound background. He is a person with wide social interests and the active Secretary of the Valluvar Kalai Manram. An expert in personal relations he is an asset to his Bank.

Mr. A. ARUMUGAM

The author of this report is a noted professional photographer of Madras Pictures taken by him of distinguished personalities have been published in leading papers both in India and overseas. No Raj Bhavan function is complete without his professional coverage as a photographer. His fine photographs have been appreciated by all including Tamil Nadu's popular governor Mr. K. K. Shah.

ON THE COVER

Tamil Nadu Governor Mr. K.K. Shah, who came accompanied by his A.D.C. Capt. Srikant, addresses the gathering. (Mrs. Srikant works for the Syndicate bank in Madras); Regional development manager Mr Gopinath Rao speaks on the objectives of the bank and lists its creditable achievements; Royapettah Branch Manger Mr. Roosevelt receives an award from the Governor for his outstanding services. This is not the first time that he has been so honoured. Tamil Nadu Labour Minister Mr. Rajaram is all smiles; A view of the audience shows that Syndicate Bank is greatly concerned with the problems of women and caters to their needs; Dr. Vishnu Sarma speaks on his happy experience with the Bank while Vice Chancellor Mr. Sundaravadivelu looks on attentively; Top officials of the bank including Mr. Gopinath Rao and Roosevelt see off the Governor and the Labour Minister at the close of the function.

Photographs by A. Arumugam

Comments By Vishnu

Banks : A Source of Credit

"An institution, such as a banking institution which touches—and should touch—the lives of millions has necessarily to be inspired by a larger social purpose and has to subserve national priorities and objectives...To the millions of small farmers and other self-employed persons— a bank can be a source of credit which is the very basis for any effort to improve their meagre economic lot."

Smt. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister, Broadcast to the Nation, July 19, 1969.

Vishnu with Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi at Nehru House, New Delhi

Syndicate Bank's Achievements

Syndicate Bank in 1974 occupied the foremost place in the banking sector.

* In the percentage of total advances to Priority Sectors, (exclusive of Exports) with 41% against the average of 28.1% for the major banks.
* In advances under the Differential Rates of Interest Scheme.
* In advances to Education, Retail Trade, Professionals and Self-employed, Road and Water Transport Operators.

It stood second among the major Banks in the number of accounts in the field of direct finance to agriculture.

It stood third among the major Banks in the number of accounts under Advances to Small Scale Industries.

During the six years of Nationalisation from July 1969 to June 1975—The Bank financed 13,455 Pumpsets 2,585 Tractors, 2,531 Dugwells, 25,753 Milch animals, 4,371 Taxies, 5,771 Trucks and 3,393 Rickshaws.

More than 1,60,000 persons have been assisted as a result of Bank's finance to self-employed enterprises and under finance to small borrowers.

"If intelligence, integrity, enterprise and a desire to work hard is all that you can offer as security for credit, your only hope is to approach Syndicate Bank..."

The Common Man's Bank

A few days ago a committee of hosts arranged a tea party to bid farewell to Mr. V. Narayanan and to welcome the new Regional Development Manager of Syndicate Bank, Mr. K.A. Gopinath Rao. They were good enough to invite me and I was greatly impressed with the large number of people assembled there from different walks of life. There were Ministers of the State Government, Leaders of diverse political parties, writers, actors, businessmen... and all of them appeared to cherish a special affection for the Syndicate Bank. There are so many banks functioning in the city. Yet why is it that again and again people single out the Syndicate Bank for special mention? I think the reason is that they maintain a warm personal relationship with their clients. This personalised and human approach has ofcourse its own advantages to build better business.

At one time when I was particularly in need of credit I approached several banks including the ones of which I had been client but all of them quoted rules as to why they could not help. It so happened that I wrote to the Chairman of Syndicate Bank at Manipal. I received without delay a personal reply from him stating that banks were there to help and that he would do so and he pursued his letter by sending me his bank manager in Madras (Then Mr. Shenoy; now Mr. Sunder Rao) to visit me and see what could be done. And they did it. Their help was timely. Now which bank does this sort of thing? This is the reason for the success of Syndicate Bank.

It is this attitute that I had in mind when I wrote a piece entitled "MENDICATE BANK; Sabitha's bank: My bank" (Free India 20-4-75)

The Shrew

She was a shrew of a woman and she had kept nagging him for thirty years. Perhaps she might have been different if she had babies. His mind was full of thoughts on how he could be rid of her. He sat pondering deeply over the matter with a cup of coffee he was holding in his hands. She was shouting at the top of her voice from the next room. Suddenly she heard the clatten of a coffee cup fall to the ground and she began screaming abuses. She accused him of being careless. She bemoaned the fact that she would have to go out and spend money to buy a new cup to replace it. She kept up a stream of abuse and when she got tired and did not hear him answer she became even more furious. She came out and found that he was sitting still and silent. She was annoyed and then she came round to find that he was dead. She screamed and poured out an endless stream of abuse because he had escaped from her and was far beyond hearing what she had to say.

Tit-Bits On Men And Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN, (General Knowledge Agency)

Dr. ANANDA COOMARASWAMY

Among those who strived sincerely for the closer and cordial relationship between India and Sri Lanka, Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy was one. He was born in Colombo in 1877. His father was one among the respected leaders of Sri Lanka; was the first to translate many of the Buddhist books in Pali into English; and was also the first citizen of the Island to be called to the London Bar.

Ananda Coomaraswamy had ihs college education at the London University. As he was deeply interested in geology and minerology, he worked hard and acquired profound knowledge in them. On account of this, he was appointed as the Director of Minerals of Ceylon, when he was only 25 years of age. After further studies, he wrote a thesis on "Minerals of Ceylon" and it secured for him the Doctorate of Science, from the London University.

He was greatly interested in the arts and crafts of Ceylon. As they were decaying for want of *patronage*, he took a prominent part in establishing the Kandyan Association of Arts and Crafts, helped the artisans and encouraged them to improve their skills. He published a book by name "Medieval Arts of Ceylon" and it is considered to be one of the best books on Art. He edited and published a monthly named "The Ceylon National Review" with a view to instil greater patriotism in the minds of the people

He was a great friend of India. He highly admired the Indian arts and crafts In 1909, he undertook an extensive tour of India. During that tour, he stayed with Poet Rabindranath Tagore at Shantiniketan. He gave a series of lectures at the Indian Society of Oriental Studies, and they revealed the depth of his knowledge about Indian arts. When he attended the Copenhagen Conference, he read a paper on "Greek Impact on Indian Arts." He collected many specimens of Indian paintings and handicrafts and sent them to the Boston Museum. A section for Indian Arts was opened in that Museum in 1917 and he was appointed as the Curator. Within a few years the Indian Arts section of the Museum became a well-equipped one mainly as a result of the efforts takan by him. At the age of seventy, Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy passed away in Boston. In his death, the world had lost a great lover of Arts and Crafts, Sri Lanka a great Citizen and India a great friend.

BASAVESWARA—THE FOUNDER OF THE LINGAYAT SECT

Among the practical philosophers and religious reformers Lord Basaveswara was one. He was born in 1125 A.D. in a village in Karnataka. Being a precocious boy, he attracted the admiring attention of others. Observing his Samudrika lakshana, that is his physical and mental characteristics, Sage Jathaveda predicted that young Basava would one day become a great religious leader and a reformer. He then initiated him in Sivapanchakshari. Basava soon mastered the sastras and amazed the elderly scholars in his discourses on religion and philosophy. With a view to learn more and know the Truth, Basava left his home and parents, like Lord Buddha. He went to the ashram of Sage Jathaveda at Koodalasangama. There he studied more religious books and obtained the Veerasaiva Diksha, namely spiritual initiation, from his beloved guru jathaveda.

As advised by his master, Basaveswara left the ashram and went about preaching the bhakthima ga. His erudition, piety and sincerity attracted the people and he moved with them lovingly, dispelling their doubts, freeing them from their superstitious beliefs and weaning them from their meaningless practices. He laid emphasis on good character and conduct. He moulded Veerasavism and enabled it to become a progressive religion By his spiritual powers, he performed many miracles and strived his best for the promotion of universal love The great Telugu poet Sri Palakuriki Somanatha Mahakavi a contemporary of his, wrote the Basava Purana which contained the life history of Lord Basaveswara and his teachings. His teachings enabled his devotees and disciples to cast off the harmful caste distinctions and blind beliefs and follow the path of devotion and right conduct.

Ex-Governor In The Dock

David Hall, former Governor of Oklahoma, was recently found guilty by the U.S. Federal Court of bribery and conspiracy. He was charged with conspiring with broker W. W. Taylor to bribe Oklahoma Secretary of State John Rogers to use his influence as chairman of a state fund to invest $10 million in a company owned by Taylor. Although this had been known for some time, it was only af.er Hall had stopped peing a governor that the charge was levelled against him.

FUN AND LAUGHTER

WINNER

Two fellows who had dined well were in the mood for a ridiculous wager.

"I'll bet you," said one, solemnly, "that the first words my wife says when I' get home tonight are 'My dear'."

"And I'll bet you a fiver," said other, "that she won't say 'My dear'."

They proceeded towards the first man's home. He knocked at the door and a head appeared at the window above.

"My dear—" began the man.

His long-suffering wife interrupted with: "My dear' be hanged. Wait till you come inside."

* * *

TOO SIMPLE

"It's surprising," said the professor to his wife at breakfast, "to think how ignorant we are. Nearly every man is a specialist in his own particular line, and in consequence we are all as narrowminded as it is possible to be."

"Yes, dear" said his wife.

"I, for instance," he continued "am ashamed of my failure to keep abreast of modern science. Take electric light, for example. I haven't the least idea how it works."

His wife gave him a patronizing look, and smiled.

"Why, Herbert, I'm ashamed of you, too. It's simple! You just press a switch, that's all!"

* * *

GOOD PAIR

The honeymoon had waned, and the gilt had worn off the wedding ring. It was their first quarrel.

"If I'd known what I know now," he said coldly. "I'd have walked as far as a pair of shoes would have carried me before I married you."

"If I'd known", she snapped, "I'd have got you a good pair."

* * *

ONE SHORT?

A traveller calling at a village inn was delighted to see packets of potato crisps on sale. He was eventually served with a packet by the hard-hearing landlord but on opening it he found in the little bag salt was missing.

Attracting the landlord's attention, he tried to explain that the salt was missing, and the crisps were no good without it. After three attempts, he spread the crisps on the counter, and once again said: "Look, gov., there's no salt."

"Crikey! grinned the landlord. "I thought you said you were one short."

* * *

CONSIDERATE

"Is your lumbago better?" the customer inquired of the tobacconist.

"Yes, thank you?" she replied.

"Good. Then reach down and get me a packet of twenty from under the counter."

NEITHER!

When Smith walked into his friend's office he found him sitting at his desk, looking very depressed.

"Hullo, old man!" said Smith. 'What's up?'

'Oh, just my wife,' replied the other sadly. 'She has engaged a new secretary for me.'

'Well, there's nothing wrong about that. Is she a blonde or a brunette?'

'He's bald'.

* * *

FLASHBACK

First sailor talking to a friend: "I had abandoned all hope—as I sank for the third time my past life seemed to appear before me in a series of grim realistic pictures—"

Friend: ' Did you happen to notice a picture of me lending you ten bob in the summer of 1944?"

* * *

ARTLESS APPRAISAL

The gentleman was gazing rapturously at "spring," a large oil painting of a shapely gir dressed only in a few strategi cally arranged leaves. Suddenly the voice of his wife snapped. "Well, what are you waiting for—autumn?"

LITTLE LAUGHS

Said the surgeon to his patient after the operation crisis had passed: "Last night I expected you to throw up the sponge at any minute."

"Good heavens!" moaned the victim. "Have they really left one inside me?"

* * *

"So you suffer from indigestion?" asked the helpful friend. "Well, what could be better than drinking a pint of warm water after every meal?"

' Indigestion!" was the grim reply.

* * *

"Tell me: Who was braver than Lancelot, wiser than Solomon, more honest than Lincoln, wittier than Mark Twain, and more handsome than Appollo?"

"I didn't know you knew my first husband."

A friend, who went to the hospital to comfort a preacher who hand suffered from an amputation of his left leg, was a little chagrined to find on the near-by table a copy of the then-current best seller, *One Foot In Heaven*.

* * *

Grandpa: "How are you getting on at school, my boy?"

Tommy: "Fine, grandpa—centre forward in football and right back in lessons."

* * *

Judge: "I seem to remember seeing you before somewhere."

Prisoner: "Yes your honour I taught your daughter music."

Judge: "Twenty years."

PLAN WITH THE PLANTES

For The Week 3rd August To 9th August

MESHA

THE week is important for family affairs while finance also must get first attention. Sunday will be active with some worries about a pending financial matter. If you have any long term investment proposition or some settlement of property affairs in the family it will be better to complete the same. Speculation is also attracting your attention. Indigestion or week new friends or some fresh some stomach trouble is possible.

VRISHABA

YOU will be interested in money matters particularly on Sunday. Some help from others is likely. In the family there is need for patience and understanding. Otherwise some difficulties may have to be faced. Sudden emotion should be avoided. Travel needs extra caution. In the office some improvement in the atmosphere is likely. You may have to make a decision about the purchase of some property or at least domestic comforts.

MITHUNA

THINGS move slowly. You should be patient. In Official matters you can expect improvement but continued attention to the pending work is essential. Health is not very good because of nervous strain. Friends will be helpful in a way although you must depend on hard work now. In the family frequent difference of opinion is indicated. Communications and correspondance will be active.

KATAKA

THE exaltation of the lord of ascendant will give you more energy. Further, the combination of Yogakaraka in the place of gain can give you some satisfaction and achievement. Expenses in the family are high and you must make a special drive in economy measures. But general satisfaction in certain domestic trends can be expected. You will have greater influence. New friendship is likely. Sunday is useful for getting finance and the help of friends.

SIMHA

OFFICIAL matters are not bad. You will be thinking seriously about augmenting your income. Health is better and friends will be helpful. A new business proposition may come up for consideration. Expenses are high and some delay in official matters will affect your thinking. In the family there is no special development except some difference of opinion on money matters. In the first half of the week, there will be activity both at home and office. Some advantage also can be expected.

KANYA

SOME religious affairs will attract your attention on Sunday. perhaps you may become somewhat detached. But activity will increase from Monday. There will be chances for making money or realising your dues. The transit of Sun will be helpful in business and in financial matters. But in the office you may not be satisfied with the current trend. Unexpected expenditure will be there though your earnings are satisfactory. Try to maintain cordial relations with elders.

THULA

THERE is need for patience and proper understanding on Sunday. Some minor illness is likely. You will be concerned about professional matters. In the family also, you may not be fully satisfied with the general trends. Unnecessary remark may affect you. Pray to God. But public relations will give you some satisfaction.

VRICHIKA

THERE is a combination of influence which requires caution and diplomacy on your part. Some illness in the family will make you unhappy. Finance is under strain. At the moment you are emotional and this will lead to misunderstanding. Give more attention to your objective so that you may not be affected very much. Sunday is mixed but some advantage outside are possible. Monday to Wednesday will call for caution and circumspection.

DHANUS

TOO much work is your problem. You cannot get away from the pressure of work as responsibilities also are great. Expenses will increase. But you can expect better income also. New undertaking or some advantage can be expected. The movement of Mars and Venus will assure some satisfaction and also improvement in official matters. The earlier part of the week-will be more useful for progress. The week-end is a little indifferent.

MAKARA

FROM Monday there will be some progress and more efforts are necessary to complete a pending matter. Officially there is nothing of importance. Speculation is not useful. Mental agitation and worry about some property are indicated. In the family also some dissatisfaction is seen and this can be got over by concentrating on the current work.

KUMBA

FROM Thursday, the week will be useful in a way. Public relations, social activity and financial matters may tend to be better. But your income is not a match to your expenses. The movement of Mars will keep you always active and worried Friday and Saturday will be useful for seeing others and gettings things, done.

MEENA

SOME improvement in the financial position is possible. But do not relax efforts. Children's affairs need more attention. In the family certain pending affairs give you worries. In the office better co-operation can be expected. But religious matters and affairs connected with the elders and superiors call for better attention. There will be active correspondence over a matter and some favourable reply is also possible.

Some Thoughts On Wicket—Keepers

P.N. SUNDARESAN

A recent article in the Hindu on S.V.T. Chari, a Madras wicket-keeper of the pre-war days. Started a train of thoughts as to the others who donned the gloves, some with conspicuous and some with indifferent success, in Madras city and state cricket.

I have to start with an anecdote, which an elderly relation of mine, who took me along with boys of my age, when I was in my early teens, to Chepauk—what a pristine atmosphere it was then with not even a compound wall enclosing it on the canal side—to witness a practice match between the M.C.C. and the M.U.C. The M.C.C. was fielding and one E.K. Shattock was keeping wickets. He had the habit of disturbing the bails frequently whereupon the elder explained to us innocents that Shattock had a string tied, one end to the base of a stump and the other to his hat and whenever he felt that the ball was close enough to the wicket he would give a tug to it and the bails would fall to the ground, creating the impression that the batsman was bowled! And quite a few batsmen fell to the dirty trick. That story was perhaps in keeping with the knowledge of the game that one possessed in those rather young days of the game in Madras.

The late S.K. Gurunathan, who was a famous a writer on the game as a reconnoitre, told me that the Indian cricketers of the early years knew little about the art of fielding, much less about the more difficult one of keeping wickets. And it was only after H P. Ward had joined the M.C.C.—an officer in the Forest Department—and kept wickets for them did they realise the science behind it. Ward was really a brilliant wicket-keeper besides being a cricketer of parts—an entertaining batsman who revelled in hitting sixes over the long-leg and square-leg boundaries and, an astute captain The manner in which he planned and trapped the famous C.K. Nayudu. known for his leg-glances, for giving catches to him, off the bowling of A.G. Penfold, was one of the talking points of the Ward era of cricket. Or now that I recall it, did Ward make catches of those Nayudu glances because of his own agility of movement.

Besides providing endless entertainment with his batting and wicket-keeping, Ward must have been the inspiration to youngsters who took to keeping wickets. Chari, or Thingudu as he was popularly known then, must have been one of those inspired by Ward. Chari hailed from Triplicane, the home of cricket especially, in his days, though his sophisticated manner did not fit in exactly with his rough and tumble environments. He behaved like an elite and, behind the stumps had the manner of the aristocrat. He was unorthodox in his stance and in talking the ball but a sure eye and quick reflexes made up for his lack of "technique"; or to put it, in proper perspective he laid out his own technique of keeping wickets. Chari was also a daring keeper and would not flinch to stand up to any bowler, be it Nissar or Amar Singh. He kept wickets for the State, enhancing the presitge of the position, and played in unofficial Test at Madras agains Ryder's Australian team.

It is intereting to recall C.G. Macartney's appraisal of Chari, who kept wickets in their match against Madras, as well as in the "Test". "The local wicket-keeper did his job well," remarked Macartney of Chari,s keeping in the first match, "taking some awkward ones on the leg-side splendidly, and acquitting himself ably on the off. He is particularly snappy when standing up to the fast-medium bowlers, and it will be interesting to watch him in action when handling the bowling of Nissar, Amar Singh and company."

And of Chari's effort in the "Test", he was more critical. "The wicket-keeper who represented India performed satisfactorily, but not brilliantly as his reputation which had gone before him. It must be said in his favour that this was his first big contest and, naturally he was over-keen to give of his best. He possesses the rapidity of movement so essential to keeping, but in my opinion, he has not the soundness expected." Macartney followed up saying that he was perhaps so critical of Chari because, for the Australians Oldfield, the prince

(Cont. on page 10)

THE FAMOUS ASTROLOGER
(OFFICE ESTD : 1934)
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Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

SCIENCE FOR DISARMAMENT

Everyone knows that scientists are of crucial importance in modern warfare and by the same token they can become a vital element in the struggle for disarmament and peace. Recently at an International Scientific Symposium held in Moscow to discuss the role of scientists and their organisations in the struggle for disarmament, more than 400 scientists from 62 countries including from India, represen tatives of 20 international organisations, including the U.N., UNESCO, the International Atomic Energy, the International Labour Organisation, the World Peace Council etc. participated. The conference called on the scientific workers of the world to take full advantage of the opportunities opened by detente, to ensure decisive progress in fight against war. And they stressed the need not only to halt the further development, stockpiling and development of nuclear weapons, but also to stop them spreading to new countries.

After the symposium had completed its work, sharing his impressions, the Indian Scientist Prof. D. Chattopadhyaya said that the symposium provided a unique opportunity to discuss the arms race—the most ominous of all problems ever faced by the human race.

16-YEAR-OLD BOY ADMITTED FULL MEMBER OF GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

For the first time in its 130–year history, the Geographical Society of the USSR has admitted to its ranks a 16-year-old school-boy, Alexander Belov, a student of Leningrad's school No 526.

The Geographical Society of the USSR is one of the oldest in the world. Established in 1845, it unites prominent scientists and travellers who have made great coutribution to the study of geography.

From page 3

also being made to streamline the implementing machinery. Government is determined to clean the administration, to streamline it and to weed out undesirable elements who encourage malpractice. In the Customs Department, a drive has been launched for cleaning the administration of undesireable elements and replacing them with officers with missionary zeal. Since september 1974, action has been taken against erring officers whose number has now came to about 500. However, it is to be kept in mind that mere administrative and legislative measures are not sufficient to tackle this problem. A strong public opinion is needed against economic offenders. Social condemnation and hatred would act as a deterrent to these types of activities. At the same time reliable information regarding the activities of these economic offenders should also be made available to the Administration.

I have broadly outlined the actions taken by Government to tackle the problems created by economic offences. It will be too much to expect that such offences will be eliminated overnight by the remedial measures so far taken. The results are expected to materialise slowly and gradually. The economic objective which we are aiming at, is bound to lead us to a stage where there will be social equality and the economic disparities of wealth and concentration of ecnomic power will be considerably removed.

(*Courtesy, AIR*)

From page 9

of wicket-keepers, was the model.

Others in the state who followed Ward and Chari, in the State team, were T M. Duraiswami, V.T. Krishnamurthy, M.O. Srinivasan, D.L. Chakravarthi, P.K. Belliappa and K.R. Rajagopal. Duraiswami or Dochi, as he was popularly known, possessed an orthodox style though he was nowhere near Chari in skill; Krishnamurthy was not so orthodox but capable of brilliant spurts; "M.O." was a very sound keeper and played once for India in an unofficial "Test" so also was M. Srinivasan, neat and capable; Chakravarthi, who had perhaps a longer reign than the others, because he was also a forthright opening batsman, was an excellent keeper, quick in the uptake; Belliappa, who also had a fairly long tenure, again because he was a good batsman, was better with the bat than with the gloves, though he was generally sound and made few mistakes; but K.R. Rajagopal, was classy and, in the combination of brilliance with reliability the best keeper Madras had since Ward; he was an equally fine batsman, sound in the brilliance of his strokes, and, for both these attributes he should have played for the country. He suffered from some embarrassments due to the clash of wicket-keeping interests with Belliappa. But, whenever he donned the gloves he left no one ind ubt as to his marked superiority over the latter.

Before I conclude I want to refer to two other keepers of the M.C.C., J.A.G.C. Law, who also played for the State and kept wickets in the Ranji trophy final against Maharashtra at Madras in the 1941, was just ordinary but had the backing of C.P. Johnstone, the State captain; Ben Navaratne, the famous wicket-keeper of Ceylon, kept wickets for the Club for a few years, though he politely refused to turn up for the State. He belonged to the highest class. For appreciating his polished work behind the stumps alone it was worth going all the way to Chepauk. Not a few bowlers built their reputation as wicket-takers with Navaratne backing them up from behind the stumps.

I cannot but mention Gurunathan himself in this group of interesting wicket-keeping characters. I saw him only on the decline but I am told that in his younger days he was really excellent with the gloves. He did his work in a neat, compact style, which was influenced by fine technque. He was really sore, as he recounted to me so many times his cricketing days, that he was not chosen for the State. His argument was he must have got in place of "M.O". Gurunathan played in one Presidency match.

From page 5

that God is one, that different religions are the different paths that lead to the same mansion of the common Father and that therefore prejudices and bickerings among men on the score of religion are not only irrelevant but in fact due to perversion. Rama or Rehman, God is the same. Mandir or Masjid, it is the temple of God. What matters is not a superstitious adherence to external forms in religion but an invincible faith in the existence of a Supreme Being who is Knowledge Absolute, Existence Absolute and Bliss Absolute. True religion has to express itself in purity of life and selfless service to all mankind, nay, to all living beings, transcending all prejudices and fanaticisms. There can be no greater religion than love of of fellow-beings, and service to all life, in whatever form it may be. This magnificent message Shri Sai Baba has transmitted to us. It is up to us to understand it and live it. Occasions like this are in the nature of reminders to us of our mission in life.

REPLICA OF SHIRDI

It is a matter for sincere gratification that Swami Keshavaiahji has been spreading the gospel of Shri Sai Baba in a silent and unostentatious way for over 35 years now; right from the day he had the revelation of Sai Baba in 1939, giving up his official life as a Sub Registrar, in response to the call of the divine Master, he launched upon a career of spiritual service. Sai Nilayam at Shenoy Nagar has verily become a spiritual centre attracting ardent spirits from far and near and Shri Keshavaiahji has been giving them solace and faith. It is very inspiring to learn that through his devoted efforts this magnificent shrine has come into being out of voluntary efforts through the spontaneous offerings of devotees. This shrine which was declared open by the Honourable Mr. Brahmananda Reddi a few months back, is bound to play a great part in promoting true religious consciousness in people. It has already transfigured Shenoy Nagar into a replica of 'Shirdi' and, when other activities calculated to promote true faith are carried on here, it is bound to glow with spiritual radiance. Swami Keshavaiahji deserves our respectful thanks for the great spiritual ministration he has been carrying on in a spirit of dedicated service without any other motive.

The example of such holy men is a source of great inspiration to all those that tread the path of spirituality and have holy aspirations. May He long continue to radiate spiritual energy and peace all round!

It is a very happy coincidence that on this auspicious day, which is meant to deepen our raiths in the great Gurus, a record carrying songs dedicated to the great saint of Shirdi, Sai Baba, and His disciple, Swami Keshavaiahji, should be released. I am sure the songs have been rendered with great fervour and devotion apart from musical excellence. They are sure to instil faith in the hearts of all hearers. I congratu'ate Smt. Janaki on the service she has rendered to the community by composing songs in praise of great saints and singing them with melody. I have pleasure in releasing the record.

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From page 2

tions, including trade unions, also devote serious attention to women. The Women's Councils, however, stand nearer to matters of concern to women. Most women of Yangiul take part in the work of the Women's Council. The factory and office managements heed the council's requests and advice. While I was talking to Agnia Orlova, Chairman of the Council, she received a telephone call from the town's chief architect. The design of a new salon for women with fashion and dress-making shops and a beauty parlour was to be approved and the chief architect wanted Orlova to be present.

I would like to cite one more example. The parents of the 17-year-old Mavluda Atakhanova decided to give her away in marriage to a man she did not love. Mavluda was resolutely against this marriage, but she did not want to quarrel with her parents. Then she appealed to the Women's council for help. Women who enjoyed the respect of the entire community of the town talked to the girl's parents The wedding never took place. Later Mavluda married a man she loved, and now she has a wonderful family. Her parents are very pleased with their daughter's family life.

The women of the little Uzoek town know the power of their solidarity as embodied in the Women s Council and use it for their own good and for the good of society.

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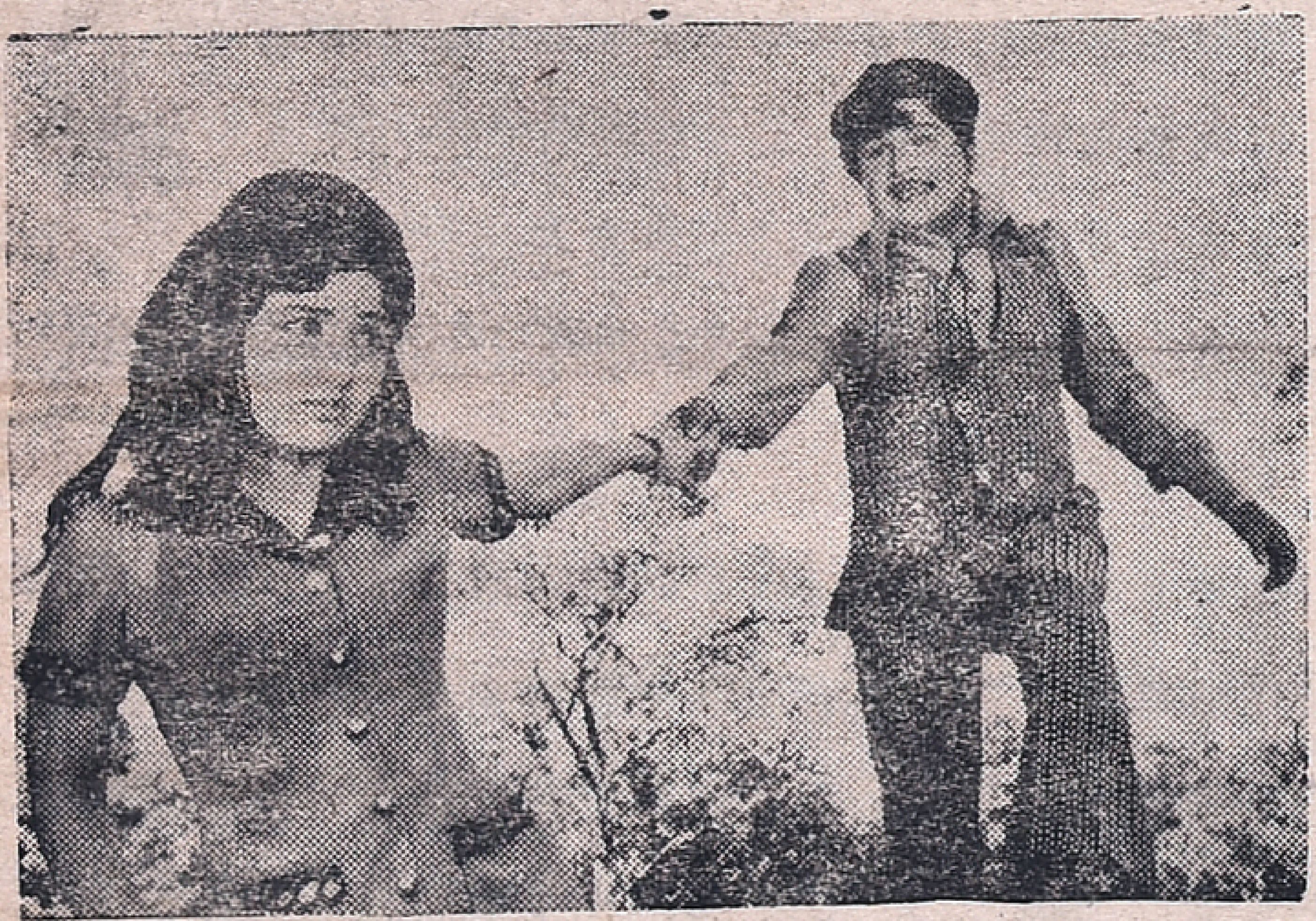
The Women's Council often organises youth meetings and competitions. At one of these contests the future mothers competed in the art of swaddling doll.

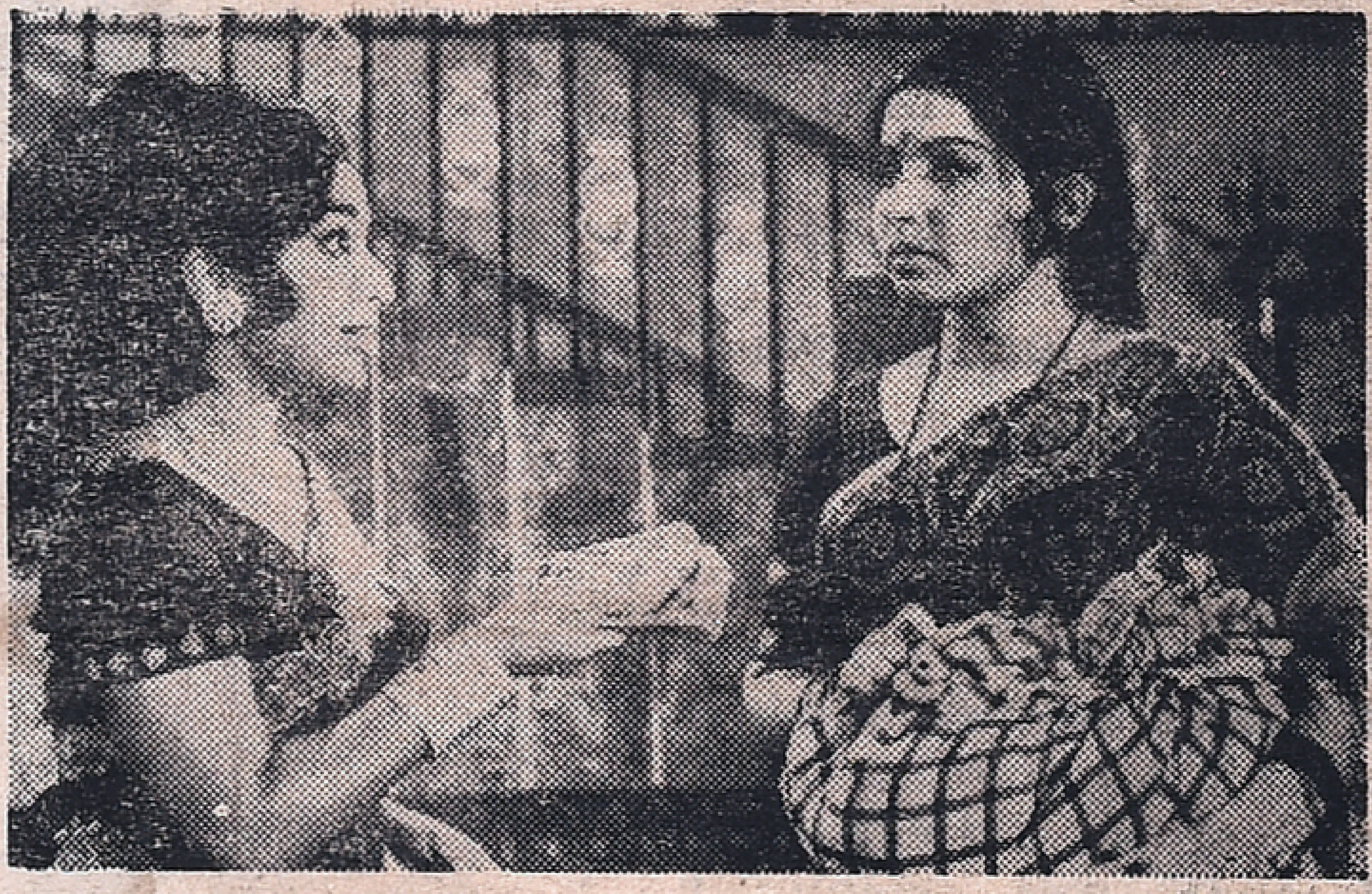
A young women's club was set up at the medical school at the initiative of the Wome's Council. The photo shows an evening party organised at the club.

Film News In Pictures

Zeenat Aman and Dev Anand in N. P International's "Warrant". Pramood Chakravarthy Directs

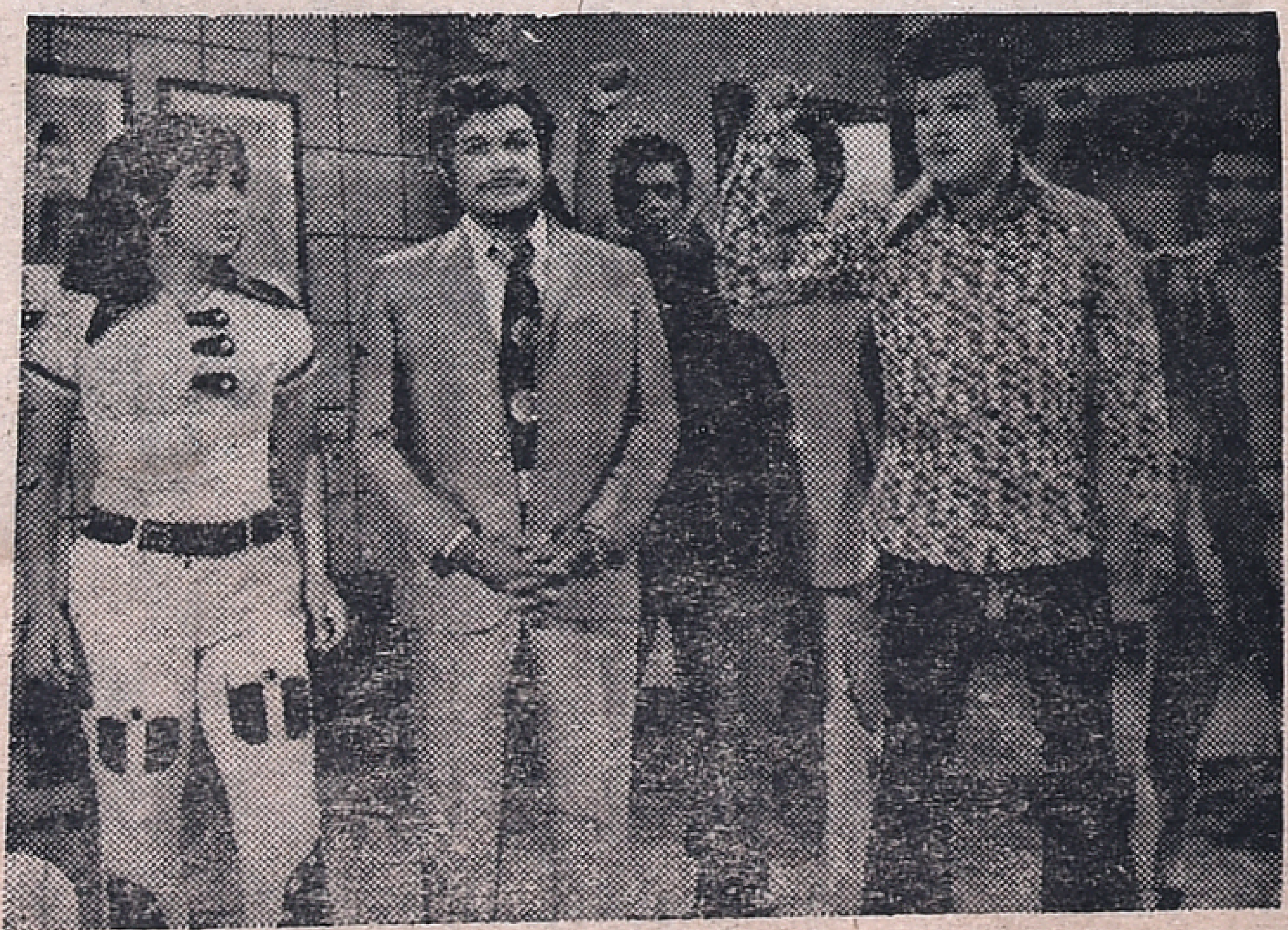


Jaisankar and Nirmala in the film "Mamiyar Veedu" produced by Ramaraj and directed by K. Krishnamurthy.



Jayalalitha hesitates to accept the money offered by Pramila in Sree Navan etha Pictures' "Unnal Sutri Ulagam" directed by G. Subramania Reddiar.

Malasian Tamil Writers' Association honoured Mr. Akilan, one of the leading Tamil writer of the day with the title "Chinthanai Kalanjiyam." Picture shows Mr. N.T.S. Arumugam Pillai of Tamil Malar, Malasia, honouring the recepient with a medallion.



"Vennira Adai" Nirmala Asokan and Jaisankar in Agasshiya's 'Nenjukku Needhi.'

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